

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 1. (currently amended) An isolated nucleotide sequence ~~encoding~~ comprising a dystrophin minigene encoding a protein consisting ~~essentially~~ of:

- (a) a N-terminal domain;
- (b) four to six rod repeats;
- © an H1 domain of a dystrophin ~~gene-protein~~ and an H4 domain of the dystrophin ~~gene-protein~~; and
- (d) a cysteine-rich domain

wherein the N-terminal domain is selected from a group consisting of a N-terminal domain of the dystrophin ~~gene-protein~~, a modified N-terminal domain of the dystrophin ~~gene-protein~~, and a N-terminal domain of a utrophin ~~gene-protein~~; the rod repeats are selected from a group consisting of rod repeats in the dystrophin ~~gene-protein~~, rod repeats in the utrophin ~~gene-protein~~, and rod repeats in a spectrin ~~gene-protein~~; the cysteine-rich domain is the cysteine-rich domain of the dystrophin ~~gene-protein~~ of the utrophin ~~gene-protein~~, and

wherein the dystrophin minigene is capable of ameliorating dystrophic pathology when expressed in a dystrophic muscle.

Claim 2. (currently amended) ~~The~~ An isolated nucleotide sequence ~~of claim 1,~~ ~~further~~ comprising a dystrophin minigene encoding a protein consisting of:

(a) a N-terminal domain;

(b) four to six rod repeats;

(c) H1 domain of a dystrophin protein and an H4 domain of the dystrophin protein;

(d) a cysteine-rich domain; and

(e) the last three amino acids of a C-terminal domain of the dystrophin protein, wherein the N-terminal domain is selected from a group consisting of a N-terminal domain of the dystrophin protein, a modified N-terminal domain of the dystrophin protein, and a N-terminal domain of a utrophin protein; the rod repeats are selected from a group consisting of rod repeats in the dystrophin protein, rod repeats in the utrophin protein, and rod repeats in a spectrin protein; the cysteine-rich domain is the cysteine-rich domain of the dystrophin protein of the utrophin protein, and

wherein the dystrophin minigene is capable of ameliorating dystrophic pathology when expressed in a dystrophic muscle.

Claim 3. (currently amended) An isolated nucleotide sequence ~~encoding~~ comprising a dystrophin minigene encoding a protein comprising:

- (a) a N-terminal domain of a dystrophin ~~gene-protein~~ or a modified N-terminal domain of the dystrophin ~~gene-protein~~;
- (b) four to six rod repeats of the dystrophin ~~gene-protein~~;
- (c) an H1 domain of a dystrophin ~~gene-protein~~ and an H4 domain of the dystrophin ~~gene-protein~~; and

(d) a cysteine-rich domain of the dystrophin ~~gene~~protein,
wherein said nucleotide sequence has fewer than 5,000 nucleotides.

Claim 4. (currently amended) The isolated nucleotide sequence of claim 3,
further comprising an H2 domain of the dystrophin ~~gene~~protein, ~~and/or~~ an H3 domain of
the dystrophin gene.

Claim 5. (currently amended) The isolated nucleotide sequence of claim 3,
containing four rod repeats of the dystrophin ~~gene~~protein.

Claim 6. (currently amended) The isolated nucleotide sequence of claim 3,
containing five rod repeats of the dystrophin ~~gene~~protein.

Claim 7. (currently amended) The isolated nucleotide sequence of claim 3,
containing six rod repeats of the dystrophin ~~gene~~protein.

Claim 8. (previously amended) The isolated nucleotide sequence of claim 3,
consisting of SEQ ID NO:2, or ~~a complementary strand~~ which is the complement of SEQ
ID NO:2.

Claim 9. (previously amended) The isolated nucleotide sequence of claim 3,
consisting of SEQ ID NO:6, or ~~a complementary strand~~ which is the complement of SEQ
ID NO:6.

Claim 10. (previously amended) The isolated nucleotide sequence of claim 3,
consisting of SEQ ID NO:9, or ~~a complementary strand~~ which is the complement of SEQ
ID NO:9.

Claim 11. (previously amended) The isolated nucleotide sequence of claim 3, consisting of SEQ ID NO:10, or ~~a complementary strand~~ which is the complement of SEQ ID NO:10.

Claim 12. (previously amended) The isolated nucleotide sequence of claim 3, consisting of SEQ ID NO:12, or ~~a complementary strand~~ which is the complement of SEQ ID NO:12.

Claim 13. (previously amended) The isolated nucleotide sequence of claim 3, consisting of SEQ ID NO:14, or ~~a complementary strand~~ which is the complement of SEQ ID NO:14.

Claim 14. (original) A recombinant adeno-associated virus vector, comprising the nucleotide sequence of claim 1 operably linked to an expression control element.

Claim 15. (original) The recombinant adeno-associated virus vector of claim 14, wherein the expression control element is an MCK promoter or a CMV promoter.

Claim 16. (original) A recombinant adeno-associated virus vector, comprising any one of the nucleotide sequence of claim 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13, operably linked to an expression control element.

Claim 17. (original) The recombinant adeno-associated virus vector of claim 16, wherein the control element is an MCK promoter or a CMV promoter.

Claims 18-23 (canceled)

Claim 24. (previously amended) A recombinant adeno-associated virus vector, comprising the nucleotide sequence of claim 9, operably linked to an expression control element.

Claim 25. (previously amended) A recombinant adeno-associated virus vector, comprising the nucleotide sequence of claim 10, operably linked to an expression control element.

Claim 26. (previously amended) A recombinant adeno-associated virus vector, comprising the nucleotide sequence of claim 11, operably linked to an expression control element.

Claim 27. (previously amended) A recombinant adeno-associated virus vector, comprising the nucleotide sequence of claim 12, operably linked to an expression control element.

Claim 28. (previously amended) A recombinant adeno-associated virus vector, comprising the nucleotide sequence of claim 13, operably linked to an expression control element.